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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 5280
Takashi FUKUDA et al. : Docket No. 2000_1743A
Serial No. 09/741,434 : Group Art Unit 1756
Filed December 21, 2000 : Examiner M. Angebranndt

INFORMATION RECORDING METHOD

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EXAMINING GROUP 1756

RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection dated January 6, 2003, please amend the present application
as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 4 and 5.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

OK to
E.G.
4/16/03
B1

1. (Twice Amended) In a method for optical information recording by patternwise irradiating a thin film of a polymeric compound containing an azobenzene moiety, said polymeric compound having a number-average molecular weight in the range from 3,000 to 10,000, with a first light beam falling in a first irradiation spot on the polymeric thin film to effect a morphological change of the polymeric thin film, the improvement which comprises simultaneously irradiating the polymeric thin film patternwise with a second light beam of substantially the same wavelength as the first light beam falling in a second irradiation spot, the diameter of the second irradiation spot being larger than the diameter of the first irradiation spot and the second irradiation spot enveloping the first irradiation spot.